

APPENDIX

68. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

responsive to an identification of software already installed on the user station, presenting a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station responsive to the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

69. The method of claim 68, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

70. The method of claim 68, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

71. The method of claim 68, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

72. The method of claim 68, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

73. The method of claim 68, wherein the method is initiated in response to a

communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

74. The method of claim 68, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

75. The method of claim 68, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

76. The method of claim 68, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

77. The method of claim 68, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

78. The method of claim 68, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

79. The method of claim 68, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

80. The method of claim 68, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

81. The method of claim 68, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

82. The method of claim 68, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

83. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:
providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;
receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station responsive to the directory; and
distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

84. The method of claim 83, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

85. The method of claim 83, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

86. The method of claim 83, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be

received.

87. The method of claim 83, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

88. The method of claim 83, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

89. The method of claim 83, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

90. The method of claim 83, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

91. The method of claim 83, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

92. The method of claim 83, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

93. The method of claim 83, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

94. The method of claim 83, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

95. The method of claim 83, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

96. The method of claim 83, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

97. The method of claim 83, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

98. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software available for installation on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

99. The method of claim 98, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

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100. The method of claim 98, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

101. The method of claim 98, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

102. The method of claim 98, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

103. The method of claim 98, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

104. The method of claim 98, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

105. The method of claim 98, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

106. The method of claim 98, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

107. The method of claim 98, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion

of the software already installed on the user station.

108. The method of claim 98, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

109. The method of claim 98, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

110. The method of claim 98, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

111. The method of claim 98, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

112. The method of claim 98, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

113. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software available for installation on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected at the

user station as a function of the directory; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

114. The method of claim 113, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

115. The method of claim 113, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

116. The method of claim 113, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

117. The method of claim 113, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

118. The method of claim 113, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

119. The method of claim 113, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

120. The method of claim 113, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the

communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

121. The method of claim 113, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

122. The method of claim 113, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

123. The method of claim 113, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

124. The method of claim 113, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

125. The method of claim 113, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

126. The method of claim 113, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

127. The method of claim 113, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

the communication is initiated by a user action.

128. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software available for installation on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station as a function of the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

129. The method of claim 128, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

130. The method of claim 128, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

131. The method of claim 128, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

132. The method of claim 128, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

133. The method of claim 128, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

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134. The method of claim 128, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

135. The method of claim 128, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

136. The method of claim 128, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

137. The method of claim 128, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

138. The method of claim 128, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

139. The method of claim 128, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

140. The method of claim 128, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

141. The method of claim 128, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface

provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

142. The method of claim 128, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

the communication is initiated by a user action.

143. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software available for installation on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station as a function of the directory; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

144. The method of claim 143, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

145. The method of claim 143, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

146. The method of claim 143, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

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147. The method of claim 143, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

148. The method of claim 143, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

149. The method of claim 143, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

150. The method of claim 143, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

151. The method of claim 143, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

152. The method of claim 143, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

153. The method of claim 143, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

154. The method of claim 143, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

155. The method of claim 143, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

156. The method of claim 143, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

157. The method of claim 143, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

158. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

responsive to an identification of software already installed on the user station,
presenting, at the user station, a directory of software available for installation but not installed on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station responsive to the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

159. The method of claim 158, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

160. The method of claim 158, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

161. The method of claim 158, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

162. The method of claim 158, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

163. The method of claim 158, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

164. The method of claim 158, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

165. The method of claim 158, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

166. The method of claim 158, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

167. The method of claim 158, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

168. The method of claim 158, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

169. The method of claim 158, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

170. The method of claim 158, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

171. The method of claim 158, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

172. The method of claim 158, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

173. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software available for installation but not installed on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station responsive to the directory; and

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distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

174. The method of claim 173, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

175. The method of claim 173, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

176. The method of claim 173, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

177. The method of claim 173, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

178. The method of claim 173, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

179. The method of claim 173, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

180. The method of claim 173, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

181. The method of claim 173, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

182. The method of claim 173, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

183. The method of claim 173, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

184. The method of claim 173, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

185. The method of claim 173, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

186. The method of claim 173, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

187. The method of claim 173, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

188. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

189. The method of claim 188, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

190. The method of claim 188, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

191. The method of claim 188, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

192. The method of claim 188, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

193. The method of claim 188, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

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194. The method of claim 188, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

195. The method of claim 188, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

196. The method of claim 188, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

197. The method of claim 188, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

198. The method of claim 188, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

199. The method of claim 188, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

200. The method of claim 188, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

201. The method of claim 188, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface

provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

202. The method of claim 188, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

the communication is initiated by a user action.

203. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

204. The method of claim 203, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

205. The method of claim 203, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

206. The method of claim 203, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

207. The method of claim 203, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

208. The method of claim 203, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

209. The method of claim 203, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

210. The method of claim 203, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

211. The method of claim 203, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

212. The method of claim 203, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

213. The method of claim 203, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

214. The method of claim 203, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

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215. The method of claim 203, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

216. The method of claim 203, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

217. The method of claim 203, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

218. A computer implemented method for distributing software updates from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:
presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software updates available for installation on the user station;
sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software updates for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software updates is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and
receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software updates indicated by the selection.

219. The method of claim 218, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

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220. The method of claim 218, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

221. The method of claim 218, wherein the software updates indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software updates should be received.

222. The method of claim 218, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

223. The method of claim 218, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

224. The method of claim 218, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

225. The method of claim 218, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

226. The method of claim 218, wherein, once the software updates indicated by the selection are received from the remote computer system, the software updates are automatically installed on the user station.

227. The method of claim 218, wherein the directory describes software updates to at

least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

228. The method of claim 218, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

229. The method of claim 218, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

230. The method of claim 218, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

231. The method of claim 218, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software updates indicated by the directory.

232. The method of claim 218, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

the communication is initiated by a user action.

233. A computer implemented method for distributing software updates from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software updates available for installation on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software updates for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software updates is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software updates indicated by the selection.

234. The method of claim 233, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

235. The method of claim 233, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

236. The method of claim 233, wherein the software updates indicated by the selection are received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software updates should be received.

237. The method of claim 233, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

238. The method of claim 233, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

239. The method of claim 233, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

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240. The method of claim 233, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

241. The method of claim 233, wherein, once the software updates are distributed to the user station, the software updates are automatically installed on the user station.

242. The method of claim 233, wherein the directory describes software updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

243. The method of claim 233, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

244. The method of claim 233, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

245. The method of claim 233, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

246. The method of claim 233, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software updates indicated by the directory.

247. The method of claim 233, wherein:

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the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

the communication is initiated by a user action.

248. A computer implemented method for distributing software updates from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software updates available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software updates for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software updates is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software updates indicated by the selection.

249. The method of claim 248, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

250. The method of claim 248, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

251. The method of claim 248, wherein the software updates indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software updates should be received.

252. The method of claim 248, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

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253. The method of claim 248, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

254. The method of claim 248, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

255. The method of claim 248, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

256. The method of claim 248, wherein, once the software updates indicated by the selection are received from the remote computer system, the software updates are automatically installed on the user station.

257. The method of claim 248, wherein the directory describes software updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

258. The method of claim 248, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

259. The method of claim 248, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

260. The method of claim 248, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal

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communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

261. The method of claim 248, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software updates indicated by the directory.

262. The method of claim 248, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

263. A computer implemented method for distributing software updates from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:
providing information, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, enabling the user station to present a directory of software updates available for installation but not installed on the user station;
receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software updates for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software updates is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and
distributing to the user station over the communications network software updates indicated by the selection.

264. The method of claim 263, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

265. The method of claim 263, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer

system.

266. The method of claim 263, wherein the software updates indicated by the selection are received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software updates should be received.

267. The method of claim 263, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

268. The method of claim 263, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

269. The method of claim 263, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

270. The method of claim 263, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

271. The method of claim 263, wherein, once the software updates are distributed to the user station, the software updates are automatically installed on the user station.

272. The method of claim 263, wherein the directory describes software updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

273. The method of claim 263, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

274. The method of claim 263, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

275. The method of claim 263, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

276. The method of claim 263, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software updates indicated by the directory.

277. The method of claim 263, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

278. A computer implemented method for distributing software updates from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software updates available for installation on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software updates for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software updates is

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selected by a user at the user station as a function of the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software updates indicated by the selection.

279. The method of claim 278, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

280. The method of claim 278, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

281. The method of claim 278, wherein the software updates indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software updates should be received.

282. The method of claim 278, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

283. The method of claim 278, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

284. The method of claim 278, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

285. The method of claim 278, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the

communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

286. The method of claim 278, wherein, once the software updates indicated by the selection are received from the remote computer system, the software updates are automatically installed on the user station.

287. The method of claim 278, wherein the directory describes software updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

288. The method of claim 278, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

289. The method of claim 278, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

290. The method of claim 278, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

291. The method of claim 278, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software updates indicated by the directory.

292. The method of claim 278, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

the communication is initiated by a user action.

293. A computer implemented method for distributing software updates from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software updates available for installation on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software updates for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software updates is selected by a user at the user station as a function of the directory; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software updates indicated by the selection.

294. The method of claim 293, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

295. The method of claim 293, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

296. The method of claim 293, wherein the software updates indicated by the selection are received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software updates should be received.

297. The method of claim 293, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

298. The method of claim 293, wherein the method is initiated in response to a

communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

299. The method of claim 293, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

300. The method of claim 293, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

301. The method of claim 293, wherein, once the software updates are distributed to the user station, the software updates are automatically installed on the user station.

302. The method of claim 293, wherein the directory describes software updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

303. The method of claim 293, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

304. The method of claim 293, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

305. The method of claim 293, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

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306. The method of claim 293, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software updates indicated by the directory.

307. The method of claim 293, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

308. A computer implemented method for installing software on a user station, the method comprising:
presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software available for installation on the user station; and
installing a selection of software on the user station,
wherein:
the selection of software is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and
the selection of software is received from a remote computer system over a communications network.

309. The method of claim 308, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

310. The method of claim 308, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

311. The method of claim 308, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received

from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

312. The method of claim 308, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

313. The method of claim 308, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

314. The method of claim 308, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

315. The method of claim 308, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

316. The method of claim 308, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

317. The method of claim 308, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

318. The method of claim 308, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

319. The method of claim 308, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

320. The method of claim 308, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

321. The method of claim 308, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

322. The method of claim 308, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

323. A computer implemented method for installing software on a user station, the method comprising:
presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software available for installation but not installed on the user station; and
installing a selection of software on the user station ,
wherein:
the selection of software is selected at the user station as a function of the directory; and
the selection of software is received from a remote computer system over a network.

324. The method of claim 323, wherein the identification of software already installed on

the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

325. The method of claim 323, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

326. The method of claim 323, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

327. The method of claim 323, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

328. The method of claim 323, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

329. The method of claim 323, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

330. The method of claim 323, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

331. The method of claim 323, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

332. The method of claim 323, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

333. The method of claim 323, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

334. The method of claim 323, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

335. The method of claim 323, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

336. The method of claim 323, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

337. The method of claim 323, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

338. A computer implemented method for installing software on a user station, the method comprising:

presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station; and

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installing on the user station a selection of software, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station as a function of the directory and wherein the selection of software is received from a remote computer system over a network.

339. The method of claim 338, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

340. The method of claim 338, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

341. The method of claim 338, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

342. The method of claim 338, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

343. The method of claim 338, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

344. The method of claim 338, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

345. The method of claim 338, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the

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communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

346. The method of claim 338, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

347. The method of claim 338, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

348. The method of claim 338, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

349. The method of claim 338, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

350. The method of claim 338, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

351. The method of claim 338, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

352. The method of claim 338, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

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353. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

responsive to an identification of software already installed on the user station, presenting, at the user station, a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station;

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected responsive to the directory; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

354. The method of claim 353, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

355. The method of claim 353, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

356. The method of claim 353, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

357. The method of claim 353, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

358. The method of claim 353, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

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359. The method of claim 353, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

360. The method of claim 353, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

361. The method of claim 353, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

362. The method of claim 353, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

363. The method of claim 353, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

364. The method of claim 353, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

365. The method of claim 353, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

366. The method of claim 353, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface

provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

367. The method of claim 353, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

the communication is initiated by a user action.

368. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information enabling the user station to present a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station based on the information and an identification of software installed on the user station;

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected responsive to the directory; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

369. The method of claim 368, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

370. The method of claim 368, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

371. The method of claim 368, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

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372. The method of claim 368, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

373. The method of claim 368, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

374. The method of claim 368, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

375. The method of claim 368, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

376. The method of claim 368, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

377. The method of claim 368, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

378. The method of claim 368, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

379. The method of claim 368, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

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380. ~~The method of claim 368, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a~~
~~computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal~~
~~communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal~~
~~digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.~~

381. The method of claim 368, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

382. The method of claim 368, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

383. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

sending to the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected at the user station as a function of software available for installation on the user station and software not already installed on the user station; and

receiving from the remote computer system over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

384. The method of claim 383, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

385. The method of claim 383, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

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386. The method of claim 383, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

387. The method of claim 383, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

388. The method of claim 383, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

389. The method of claim 383, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

390. The method of claim 383, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

391. The method of claim 383, wherein, once the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

392. The method of claim 383, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

393. The method of claim 383, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer

at the user station.

394. The method of claim 383, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

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C03* ~~395. The method of claim 383, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.~~

396. The method of claim 383, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

397. The method of claim 383, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

398. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected at the user station as a function of software available for installation on the user station and software not already installed on the user station; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

399. The method of claim 398, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring a user of the user station to identify the software.

400. The method of claim 398, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

401. The method of claim 398, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after a user of the user station confirms that the software should be received.

402. The method of claim 398, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

403. The method of claim 398, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

404. The method of claim 398, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

405. The method of claim 398, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

406. The method of claim 398, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

407. The method of claim 398, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

408. The method of claim 398, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

409. The method of claim 398, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

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~~410. The method of claim 398, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.~~

411. The method of claim 398, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

412. The method of claim 398, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.

413. A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

providing information, responsive to an identification of software already installed on the user station, enabling the user station to present a directory of software available for installation on the user station and not already installed on the user station;

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receiving, at the remote computer system over a communications network, a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected by a user at the user station responsive to the directory; and

distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

414. The method of claim 413, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software.

415. The method of claim 413, wherein the directory is provided by the remote computer system.

416. The method of claim 413, wherein the software indicated by the selection is received from the remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software should be received.

417. The method of claim 413, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system.

418. The method of claim 413, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule.

419. The method of claim 413, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the user.

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420. The method of claim 413, wherein the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system, and wherein the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

421. The method of claim 413, wherein, once the software is distributed to the user station, the software is automatically installed on the user station.

422. The method of claim 413, wherein the directory describes updates to at least a portion of the software already installed on the user station.

423. The method of claim 413, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

424. The method of claim 413, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

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425. The method of claim 413, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.

426. The method of claim 413, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

427. The method of claim 413, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and the remote computer system; and

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the communication is initiated by a user action.

428. The method of claim 413, wherein the directory is prepared at the user station responsive to the identification of software already installed on the user station.

429. A computer implemented method for installing a software update on a user station, the method comprising:

presenting, at the user station, as a function of an identification of software already installed on the user station, a directory of software updates available for installation but not included in the software already installed on the user station; and

installing a selected software update on the user station,

wherein:

the selected software update is selected by a user operating the user station as a function of the directory; and

the selected software update is received over a network.

430. The method of claim 429, wherein the identification of software already installed on the user station is determined without requiring the user to identify the software to a remote computer system.

431. The method of claim 429, wherein information for generating the directory is provided by a remote computer system.

432. The method of claim 429, wherein the selected software update is received from a remote computer system only after the user confirms that the software update should be received.

433. The method of claim 429, wherein the method is initiated in response to a

communication between the user station and a remote computer system.

434. The method of claim 429, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and a remote computer system; and

the communication occurs according to a schedule.

435. The method of claim 429, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and a remote computer system; and

the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by a user of the user station.

436. The method of claim 429, wherein:

the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and a remote computer system; and


the communication occurs according to a schedule determined by the remote computer system.

437. The method of claim 429, wherein, once the selected software update is received from a remote computer system, the software update is automatically installed on the user station.

438. The method of claim 429, wherein the directory further provides identification of software available for installation but not installed on the user station.

439. The method of claim 429, wherein the method is facilitated using an HTML viewer at the user station.

440. The method of claim 429, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

 ~~441. The method of claim 429, wherein the user station comprises at least one of a computer, cable television controller, video game player, information kiosk, wired personal communicator, wireless personal communicator, personal information communicator, personal digital assistance, information appliance, and system controller.~~

442. The method of claim 429, wherein the method is facilitated using a user interface provided at the user station by an entity associated with the software indicated by the directory.

443. The method of claim 429, wherein:
the method is initiated in response to a communication between the user station and a remote computer system; and
the communication is initiated by a user action.